

**Federal Geographic Data Committee
Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
June 30, 2004**

The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Marine and Coastal Spatial Data (MCSD) Subcommittee met at NOAA headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland, on June 30, 2004. An agenda and list of the items that were distributed during the meeting are included at the end of the minutes. Individuals who wish to request copies of these items should contact David Stein at Dave.Stein@noaa.gov.

Opening Remarks/Housekeeping Items

Tony LaVoi (NOAA), acting chair of the subcommittee, called the meeting to order. The last meeting was held on August 13, 2003, in Silver Spring, Maryland. Tony introduced himself as acting chair and explained to the group that he has assumed the acting role since Anne Miglarese resigned from NOAA and the FGDC MCSD Subcommittee Chair in March 2004. Tony is the Deputy Branch Chief for Coastal Information Services at the NOAA Coastal Services Center. Tony worked for Anne for eight years and has a good understanding of the NSDI, coastal resource management, coastal and marine policy, and coastal and marine technologies. There were no objections from committee members regarding his acting role. At the next meeting, a selection of the official MCSD chair will be made.

David Stein (NOAA) reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. Tony LaVoi then updated the committee on recent FGDC activities, including the Steering Committee meeting held on June 15, 2004, the RAND Homeland Security Report, and the FGDC Future Directions Initiative.

Agenda Items

1. The Shoreline Data Content Standard, Eric Linzey, Perot Systems Government Services under contract to NOAA National Geodetic Survey. The scope of this standard is primarily oriented toward reaching a common understanding of the shoreline for national mapping purposes and other geospatial applications. The standard will not attempt to define what “the” shoreline is; however, the effort will be focused on developing consistency in shoreline semantics to facilitate data sharing and interoperability among shoreline data users and systems. The standard’s intent is to also develop a consensus from stakeholders surrounding the use of common shoreline terminology. Eric’s presentation will be made available on the subcommittee’s Web site. (http://www.csc.noaa.gov/fgdc_bsc/)

2. A Geospatial Framework for the Coastal Zone – National Needs for Coastal Mapping and Charting, David Feary, National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences, Oceans Study Board. David Feary presented the

recommendations of the NRC report on coastal mapping and charting. There were 11 recommendations in the report, three of which could be acted on by the subcommittee.

They include:

NRC Recommendation 2: To achieve national consistency, all parties should define their shorelines in terms of a tidal datum, allowing vertical shifts to be calculated between and among the various shoreline definitions, while at the same time permitting different agencies and users to maintain their existing legal shoreline definitions. In situations where legislation or usage does not preclude it, the committee recommends that internationally recognized shoreline established by NOAA's National Geodetic Survey be adopted. The committee encourages the FGDC's Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee to pursue implementation of this recommendation.

NRC Recommendation 7: All federally funded coastal zone mapping and charting activities should be registered at a common, publicly available Web site. This combined registry should be accessible through the single Web portal for coastal zone information.

NRC Recommendation 8: To be effective, coordination should be carried out among the primary agencies involved in coastal zone mapping, it should be mediated by a body that has the authority and means to monitor and ensure compliance, and it should involve people who are knowledgeable enough to identify the most critical issues. The committee suggested that a restructured FGDC and an empowered Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee will be required to allay these concerns.

David's presentation will be made available on the subcommittee's Web site.

(http://www.csc.noaa.gov/fgdc_bsc/)

3. Workplan Development. David Stein (NOAA) opened the discussion on the 2005–2006 Work Plan. Tony LaVoi (NOAA) noted that there are a number of external drivers that will impact the work of the subcommittee. Instead of being reactionary, it is the desire of the subcommittee to create a work plan that is reflective of current activities such as Geospatial One-Stop (GOS), the National Map, the NSDI Future Directions Initiative, the NRC study, and the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy Report. The subcommittee, through its members, has an opportunity to play a proactive role in advancing the NSDI. A brainstorming session suggested the following items for possible inclusion into the work plan:

- Work plan should be a two-year effort.
- Development of a bathymetry working group called the “bathy support group.”
- Stronger ties to the USGS and/or subcommittee that is leading the elevation framework theme.
- Continued integration with GOS and the National Map.
- Special interest meetings, e.g., bathymetry and shoreline.
- Membership drive (get more participants back to the table).

- Grass roots approach for making coastal framework data accessible. In other words, work from the bottom up instead of top down. Focus on making data Web-accessible first, and then think about how it will integrate with GOS and TNM.
- Instead of spreading too thin, focus on a couple of big issues that can truly be accomplished.

Action: Create a first draft of the new work plan and circulate it among the group (Stein).

Action: Subcommittee members will provide input on the work plan. (All)

4. Thematic Updates

ENCs

Mike Brown (NOAA) updated the subcommittee on Electronic Navigational Chart (ENC) status. There are 408 ENCs available and there have been over two million downloads to date. ENCs can be downloaded at <http://chartmaker.ncd.noaa.gov/>. Mike also summarized the ENC Direct application under development. ENC Direct is an on-line mapping application that allows users to download ENC data in a number of formats.

Comment: Should this be capped as if it's the title of an application?

David Stein gave an update on an ENC geographic information systems (GIS) application under development by the NOAA Coastal Services Center called the ENC Data Handler for ArcGIS. The extension works in ArcGIS 8.x and enables users to convert ENCs from S-57 to geodatabase format and automatically symbolizes the feature classes.

Action: Send out ENC Direct to the subcommittee for testing when ready for beta testing (Stein/Brown).

Marine Boundary Working Group (MBWG)

Lee Thormahlen (MMS) and Cindy Fowler (NOAA) updated the subcommittee on recent activities of the MBWG. The MBWG has been working on a handbook entitled *Marine Boundary Best Practices: A Handbook on Developing Legal Descriptions and Digital Boundaries for Marine Managed Areas*. For up-to-date information about the working group, refer to the Web site at <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/mbwg/>.

Geospatial One-Stop (GOS)

Kim Owens (NOAA) updated the subcommittee on recent GOS activities. NOAA is managing the Oceans and Estuaries, Atmosphere and Climate, and Locations and Geodetic Networks channels on the GOS portal. Kim asked if anyone was interested in participating in a small working group to help design and populate the oceans and estuaries channel. Most of the work could be done on the phone or through e-mail. It wouldn't require a lot of meeting time. Vince Caruso (USGS) indicated that he was interested in participating.

Action: Send out another call for participation in the GOS Oceans and Estuaries work group (Stein).

Shoreline

Adam Bailey (NGA) informed the subcommittee that NGA's (National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency) Maritime Division has a contract with EarthSat to provide NGA with a global shoreline (except Antarctica). This data will be derived from Landsat and theoretically at MHW and 1:50K scale. The expected data delivery is fall 2004. Adam also mentioned that he would like to provide a presentation at the next subcommittee meeting.

5. Action Items

- Send out ENC Direct to the subcommittee for review. (Stein/Brown)
- Create a first draft of the updated work plan and distribute to the group. (LaVoi/Stein)
- Send out another call for participation in the GOS oceans and estuaries work group. (Stein)
- Subcommittee members to provide input on work plan. (All)

Items Distributed

- Agenda
- NSDI future directions slides and action plans
- 2003 Work Plan
- NRC recommendations relevant to the subcommittee
- A Geospatial Framework for the Coastal Zone: National Needs for Coastal Mapping and Charting

Attendees

Name	Agency	E-mail
Tony LaVoi	NOAA Coastal Services Center	Tony.Lavoi@noaa.gov
David Stein	NOAA Coastal Services Center	Dave.Stein@noaa.gov
Mike Brown	NOAA Coast Survey	MikeBrown@noaa.gov
Kim Owens	NOAA NOS	Kimberly.Owens@noaa.gov
Cindy Fowler	NOAA Coastal Services Center	Cindy.Fowler@noaa.gov
Daniel Martin	Perot Systems	Daniel.Martin@ps.net
Eric Linzey	Perot Systems	Eric.Linzey@noaa.gov
Lee Thormahlen	MMS Marine Boundaries Branch	Leland.Thormahlen@mms.gov
David Feary	NRC/NAS	Dfeary@nas.edu
Adam Bailey	NGA	baileya@nga.mil
Dennis Walker	NGA	walkerd@nga.mil
Vince Caruso	USGS	vcaruso@usgs.gov

Agenda

Federal Geographic Data Committee
Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, June 30, 2004
9:00 – 12:30
NOAA SSMC4 9153 Large Conf. Room

- 9:00 Welcome and introductions
- Change in chairmanship
 - Review of meeting minutes from August 2003 meeting
 - Recent FGDC activities
- 9:30 National Shoreline Data Content Standard – Eric Linzey, NGS
- 10:00 NRC Coastal Mapping and Charting Study – David Feary, NRC
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 Development of Subcommittee Workplan – All
- 11:30 Project/Agency Updates
- ENC's – status and tools, NOAA and ACOE
 - Geospatial One-Stop, NOAA and other participating agencies
 - Marine Boundary Working Group, MMS and NOAA
 - Shoreline activities, NGA, ACOE, NOAA
 - Other agency activities, open
- 12:15 Action items and next meeting
- 12:30 Meeting adjourned

Meeting Minutes Submitted by

David Stein, NOAA Coastal Services Center
FGDC Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee Executive Secretary